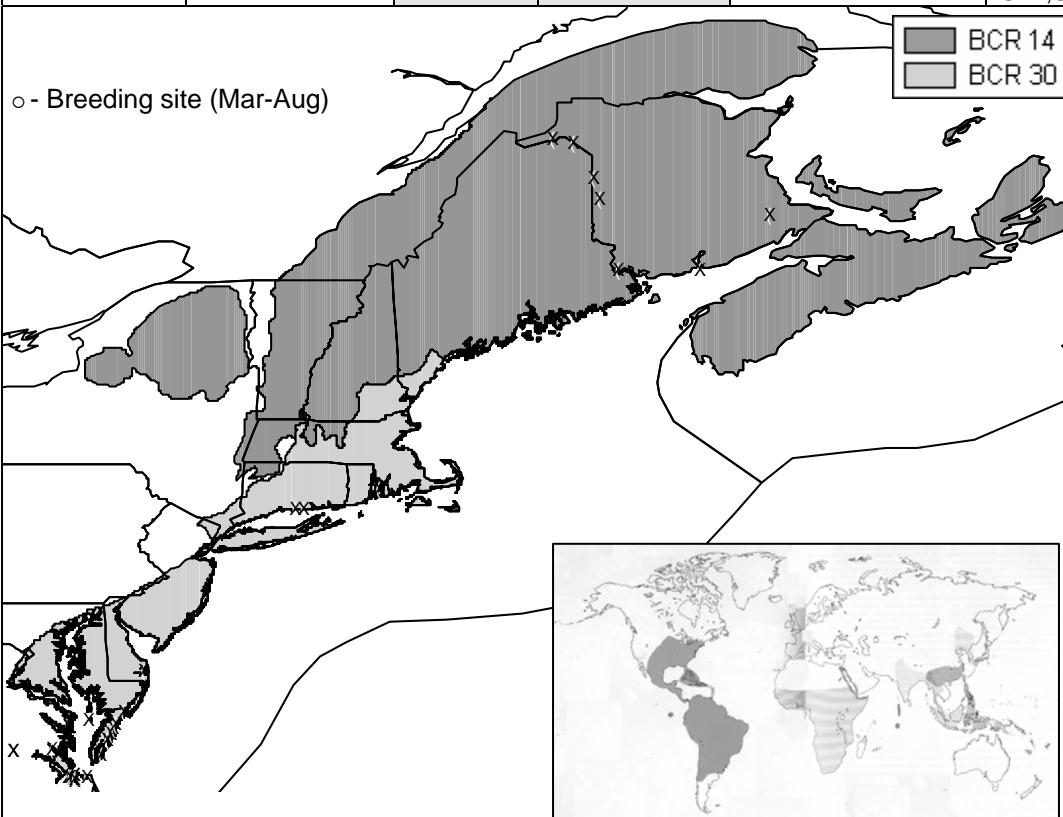# GREEN HERON *(Butorides virescens virescens)*

| Conservation Status: Abundance (b=breeding, nb=nonbreeding, t=total individuals), Population Importance (% reference population) and Conservation Rank | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Global | North America | BCR 14 | BCR 30 | Mid-Atlantic | S. New England | Gulf of Maine | Maritimes |
| ? | ? (? % global) | 30b (? % NA) | 408b (? % NA) | 394b (90% MANEM) | 14b (3% MANEM) | ?b (? % MANEM) | 30b (7% MANEM) |
| IUCN- Not Evaluated | NAWCP- Low Concern | Low | Low | NJ- S4B; DE-S4B; MD-S5B; VA-S5 | NY-S5; CT-S5B, SZN; RI-S5B, S5N; MA-S4; VT-S4B,S4N | MA-S4, NH-S5B; ME-S3S4B; NB- S2B; NS- no info | QC-S4; NB, NS - no info; PE- no info |



o - Breeding site (Mar-Aug)

BCR 14
BCR 30

**Regional Occurrence** [BCRs 14 (LME 8), 30 (LME 7)]
- Distribution: breeds in region
- Habitats used: breeds in ponds, rivers, lakes, marshes, swamps, and mangroves, in trees in wooded areas in both fresh-water and brackish habitats; forages along water's edge in very shallow water; uses vegetation and rocks to access deeper water; plunges after prey into deeper water; generally under cover of thick vegetation but will feed on open mudflats, tide channels, open marshes, pond edges, and golf ponds

NAWCP BD=2; NAWCP ND=4

**Regional Abundance**
- 1990s: US—408b (15 colonies); CAN—30b
- 1970s: US—48b (8 colonies)
- Increase in regional population

NAWCP PS=3; NAWCP PT=2

**Regional Threats/Limiting Factors**
- Pesticides/contaminants (esp. DDE) which can cause eggshell thinning
- Predation on eggs and young, esp. by snakes, raccoons, grackles, and crows
- Increased recreational use of river channels lead to decreased use and foraging time

NAWCP TB=2; NAWCP TN=3

**Conservation Needs**: *Sustainability*: 78.8% nests successful; *Conservation Actions*: Conserve and manage wetlands, focus on foraging/habitat needs. Some man-made water bodies have created suitable artificial habitat, such as reservoirs, water marshes used for mosquito control, and dredged material islands; *Needs*: monitor; *Population Goals*: maintain (above minimum); *Habitat Goals*: TBD